

# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

## FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

June 2005



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development  
Office of Economic Advisors

### May unemployment rates fall more slowly than usual

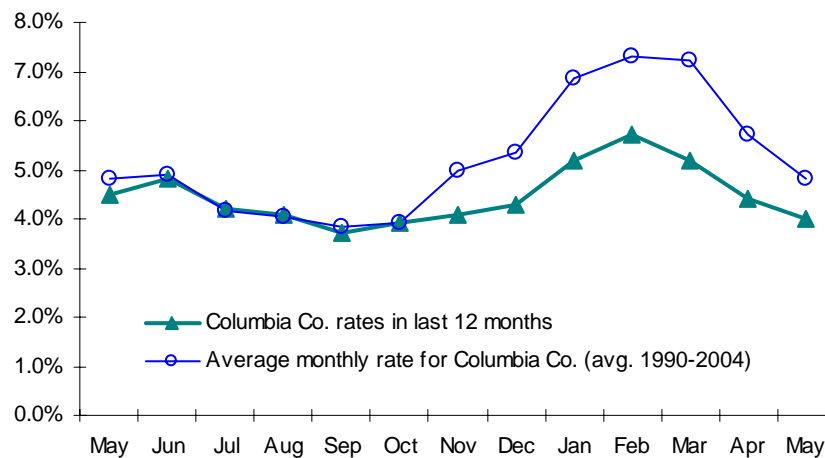
In May, **Columbia County's** unemployment rate fell more slowly than it typically does. The rate is not as far below its typical level as it was from December through April, but it remains below typical.

The unemployment rate in **Dane County** rose slightly instead of falling as it typically does in May. The rate remains above its normal May level by a margin similar to margins seen throughout much of the last year. Depending on exactly when high school and college students start seeking work, the typical June surge of labor force entrants could begin in May. In the **Madison Metropolitan Statistical Area** (which includes Columbia, Dane and Iowa counties) the professional & business services em-

ployment estimate fell slightly from April to May, but remained well above its May 2004 level. This sector's employment estimates appear

**Dodge County's** unemployment rate remains somewhat above its typical level for this time of year. After two months of falling faster than it usually does, it fell more slowly than typical for May. Despite recent month-to-month gains, the leisure & hospitality employment estimate remains well below its year-ago level. The construction employment estimate continues to post month-to-month gains, but is barely above its year-ago level. It was well above its year-ago level in December.

Unemployment rates – not seasonally adjusted



to have been gaining momentum since last September. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate is not bouncing back from winter doldrums as it did last spring.

### Labor force estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			South Central			Columbia County			Dane County		
	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	3,032,400	610	-17,200	445,300	-1,260	1,150	31,000	-320	-80	282,900	-1,590	450
Employed	2,893,500	5,300	-9,400	429,600	-1,100	2,000	29,800	-200	60	274,100	-1,850	570
Unemployed	138,800	-4,700	-7,800	15,700	-160	-880	1,250	-120	-140	8,800	260	-120
Unemployment rate	4.6%	-0.1%	-0.2%	3.5%	0.0%	-0.2%	4.0%	-0.4%	-0.5%	3.1%	0.1%	0.0%

	Dodge County			Jefferson County			Marquette County			Sauk County		
	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	46,300	50	290	42,600	30	-510	8,000	-10	30	34,400	590	970
Employed	44,200	120	520	40,900	80	-180	7,500	60	60	33,100	700	990
Unemployed	2,100	-70	-240	1,780	-50	-330	450	-70	-30	1,370	-110	-20
Unemployment rate	4.5%	-0.2%	-0.6%	4.2%	-0.1%	-0.7%	5.6%	-0.8%	-0.4%	4.0%	-0.4%	-0.2%

\*\* Includes labor force participants residing in area. Estimates are **NOT** seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

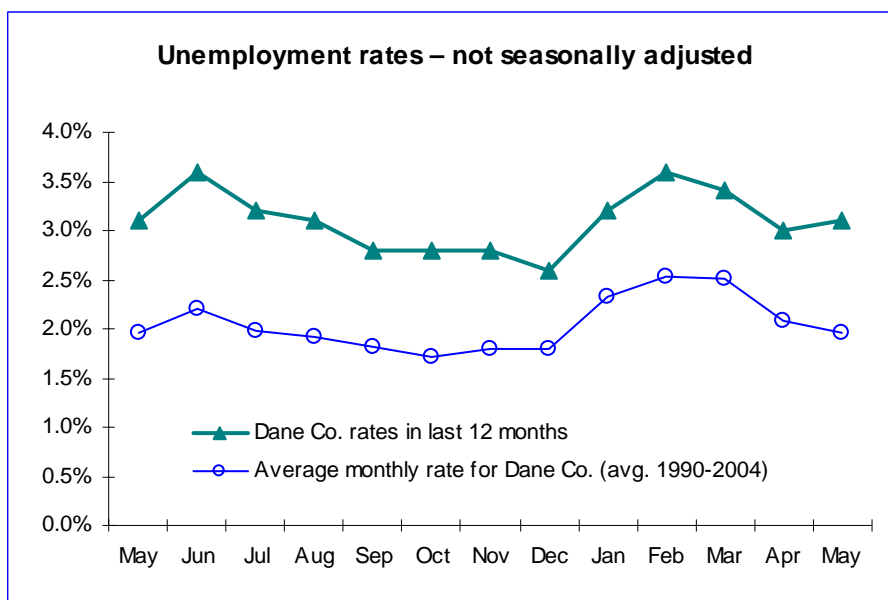
After falling more quickly than usual for two months, **Jefferson County's** unemployment rate fell more slowly than usual in May. April was the only month in the last 12 when the unemployment rate was closer to its typical level. Last May, the construction employment estimate was 260 jobs or 16.3 percent above its year-ago level; this May, it was just 100 jobs or 6.3 percent above its year-ago level. The retail & wholesale trade employment estimate is further above its year-ago level than it has been at any point since last June.

In **Marquette County** the unemployment rate rose more slowly than usual last fall and peaked at a lower level than usual this winter. Although the rate has fallen more slowly than usual in April and May, it remains below its typical May level. The construction employment estimate

remains below its year-ago level, but less so than it has been at any point in the last 12 months. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate fell more sharply in September and October of 2004 than the in same months of 2003, but has generally followed the year-ago trend through the winter and spring.

Falling more slowly than usual, **Sauk County's** unemployment rate was higher than its typical May rate. From January through April it was below its typical levels and it has not been this far above typical since last October. The construction employment

estimate is as far above its year-ago level as it has been since last May. The leisure & hospitality employment estimate is further above its year-ago level than it has been at any point in the last 12 months.



### Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted

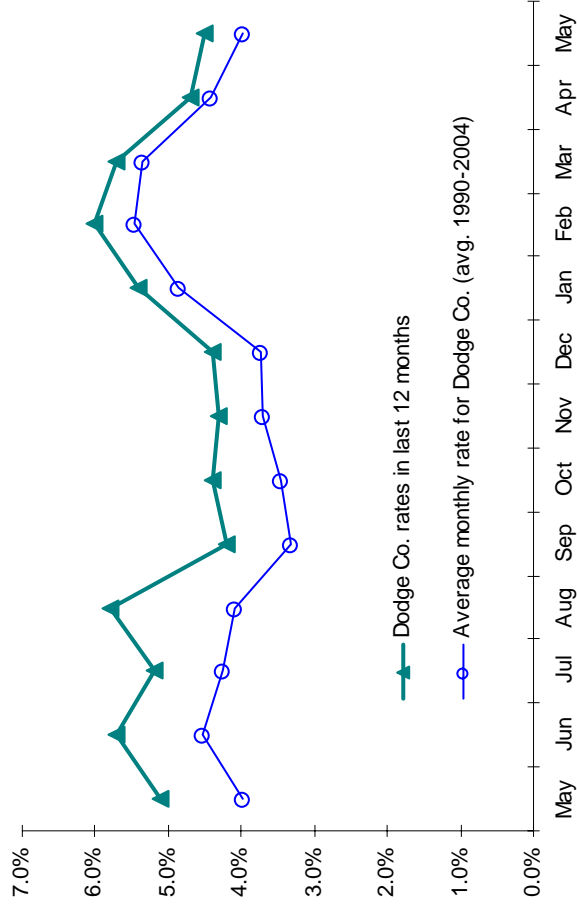
	Wisconsin			Madison MSA			Dodge County		
	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all indstries*	2,844,500	37,200	27,000	339,200	1,500	2,200	34,700	390	270
Const., min'g & nat. resources	139,000	9,400	5,400	16,500	1,100	- 500	2,300	170	0
Manufacturing	503,300	5,100	2,900	31,800	200	- 200	10,400	10	- 80
Trade (w holesale & retail)	428,600	3,700	- 1,000	49,700	- 100	- 1,400	4,600	80	320
Transport, Wrhsing, Utilities	109,300	1,200	1,500	8,600	- 100	100	910	10	- 20
Financial activities	157,700	400	- 500	27,800	200	0	830	0	0
Education & health services	384,400	1,400	10,000	34,800	200	1,100	4,300	10	70
Leisure & hospitality	262,000	14,700	5,700	28,700	700	- 200	2,500	150	- 60
Info, prof, bus. & other srvcs	437,300	1,400	2,300	60,300	- 400	3,200	3,300	- 10	70
Government	422,900	- 100	700	81,000	- 300	100	5,500	- 30	- 30

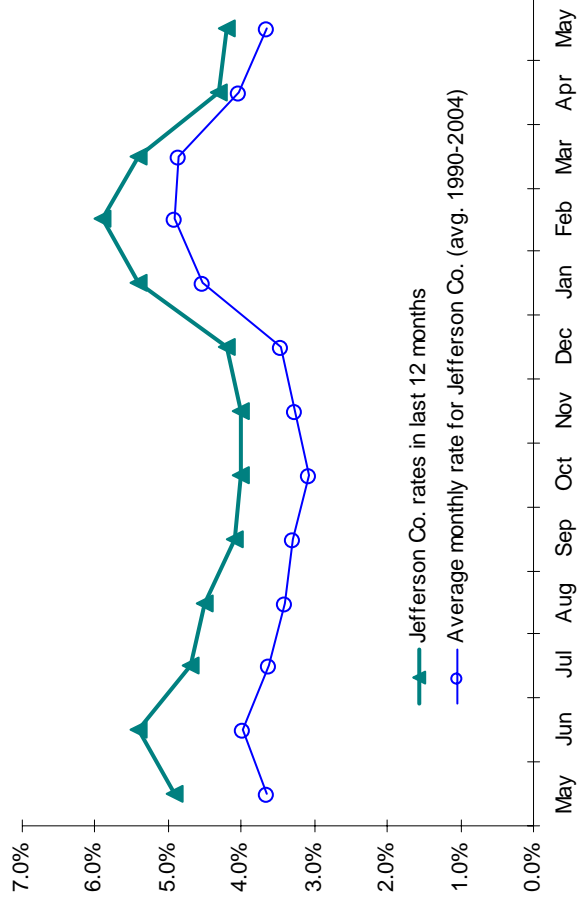
	Jefferson County			Marquette County			Sauk County		
	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change	May 2005	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all indstries*	36,900	520	- 240	4,100	90	40	37,400	1,340	770
Const., min'g & nat. resources	1,670	90	100	210	50	- 20	2,300	220	80
Manufacturing	9,600	0	- 370	1,240	- 10	0	6,600	20	20
Trade (w holesale & retail)	6,100	130	100	470	10	- 10	6,200	40	- 70
Transport, Wrhsing, Utilities	1,200	0	0	70	0	0	710	30	- 40
Financial activities	1,020	0	20	140	10	10	1,890	20	220
Education & health services	4,400	- 20	- 10	340	0	10	3,500	- 10	60
Leisure & hospitality	3,300	200	- 50	510	50	20	7,700	990	560
Info, prof, bus. & other srvcs	5,600	90	240	340	0	20	3,100	40	- 90
Government	3,900	40	- 280	840	- 20	10	5,500	- 30	30

\*Includes jobs with employers in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

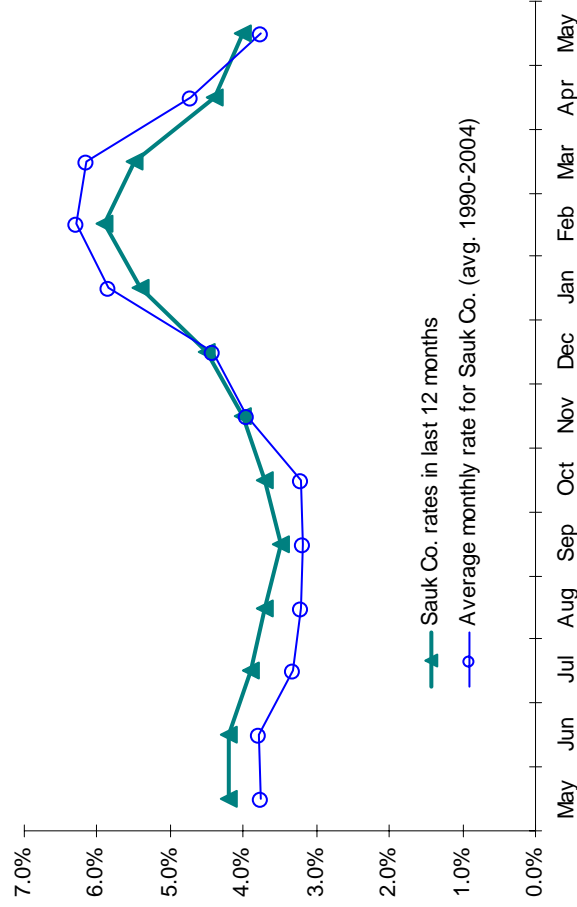
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